



**Governing Council
of the
United Nations
Development Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/1991/SR.8
12 March 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Organizational session for 1991

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 8th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 22 February 1991, at 3 p.m.

President:

Mr. PIRIZ-BALLON

(Uruguay)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME MATTERS (continued) (DP/1991/L.4, DP/1991/BFC/L.2)

1. Mr. LUCAS (Guyana) said that, as his delegation had not been able to participate as actively as it would have wished in the negotiations concerning the draft decision on the Standing Committee for Programme Matters (DP/1991/L.4), he would like to ask now that the phrase "and small island countries with a population of two million or less and with a 1989 per capita gross national product between \$750 and \$1,500" should be included in paragraph 12 of that document. The phrase had been included in paragraph 31 of Council decision 90/34 on the fifth programming cycle, thereby giving the same status to countries with a gross per capita national product (GNP) of below \$750 as to small island countries with a population of 2 million or less and a per capita GNP of between \$750 and \$1,500.

2. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to include the phrase proposed by the representative of Guyana.

3. It was so decided.

4. Mr. ROHNER (Switzerland) said that he welcomed the adoption of the decision on the Standing Committee, which for the moment was only a framework. The participation of all delegations in its organization and its work, would be required to make the Committee effective and useful.

Draft decision DP/1991/BFC/L.2 submitted by the Budgetary and Finance Committee

5. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision submitted by the Budgetary and Finance Committee on the budgetary and financial implications of the establishment of the Standing Committee for Programme Matters.

6. It was so decided.

7. The PRESIDENT explained that, since the Standing Committee also had budgetary and financial implications for the regular budget, the convening of the proposed intersessional meeting in May 1991 would have to be approved by the relevant United Nations bodies, namely, the Committee on Conferences, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

8. Mr. MOZOTA (France) expressed regret that, for lack of time, the regional representatives had resorted to a somewhat chaotic method of presenting the mid-term reviews. France prepared the mid-term reviews with care, because programme review was a basic aspect of UNDP's work. He recalled that the previous year the Algerian delegation had already referred to the problem.

9. Mrs. KEPPENS (Belgium) said that she concurred with the representative of France.

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CLOSURE OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

10. The PRESIDENT said that the Standing Committee for Programme Matters would deal with that question. He declared closed the organizational meeting.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.